GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:445
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2000
INDO-US TIES
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI;VIJAY GOEL

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Security Advisor has held any meetings with US authorities as a follow-up of US President`s visit to India on various issues on which there is basic understanding between India and US;

(b) if so, the details of the issues followed-up and the result thereof;

(c) whether any assurance has been received from the U.S. authorities in respect of lifting of economic sanctions; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken to ensure that these sanctions are lifted?

Answer

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) No Sir, the National Security Advisor has not held any meetings with US authorities as a follow up of US President`s visit to India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) & (d) In partial exercise of the waiver authority under the Defence Appropriations Act 2000, the US lifted restrictions on 27th October 1999, on US EXIM Bank, OPIC and TDA activities; International Military Education and Training Programme (IMET); th lending by US Banks to the Government of India; credit and financial assistance by Department of Agriculture to support the purchase of food; and certain assistance for Wild Life Conservation and Environmental Projects.On 16th December, the US also removed 51 organisations from the list of over 200 Indian Government organisations, research institutions, public sector units and private companies - the so-called Entities List - which were subjected to tighter export restrictions.

Meanwhile, Government continues to use every opportunity including during the visit of President Clinton to reiterate its position that all unilateral restrictions against India are counter-productive and should be lifted completely.